

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TORRANCE COMMISSION ON AGING**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on August 12, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center.

2. ROLL CALL/MOTIONS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCE

Present: Commissioners Cohen, Kimmel-Dagostino, G. Davis and
Chairperson K. Davis

Absent: Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

MOTION: Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino moved to approve the excused absences of Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik; motion was seconded by Commissioner G. Davis. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik)

3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL

Julie Dojiri led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Former Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

Be patient with yourself. Self-growth is tender, it's holy ground. There's no greater investment.

Stephen Covey

The right to be heard does not automatically include the right to be taken seriously. To be taken seriously depends entirely on what is being said.

Hubert H. Humphrey

How many times can a man turn his head, and pretend that he just doesn't see.

Bob Dylan

Patience often gets the credit that belongs to fatigue.

Franklin Jones

4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Cohen moved and Commissioner G. Davis seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of August 12, 2014. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson K. Davis noted that the final copy of the Annual Report reflected the changes that had been requested in the minutes.

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Cohen seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of July 8, 2014, as submitted. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik)

6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Commissioner Griffith, Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA)

Julie Dojiri, Civic Affairs Chairperson for South Bay New Horizons

Debbie Reed, Senior Supervisor, Community Services Department

7. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS

A. City Council Activities

Chairperson K. Davis stated that Commissioner Kraemer had emailed her a report on the City Council meetings with the following information:

- The City Council election turnout had been upgraded to a 28% turnout.
- New council people were sworn in.
- It had been decided to appoint a Council person to the vacant seat instead of conducting an election and the appointment was scheduled for the August 12 meeting.
- Mayor Furey stated that his priorities were: maintenance of roads and sidewalks, upgrading the City website and issues with the hillside views.
- The new ordinance for massage establishments had second and final readings. The ordinance restricted the opening of a new massage establishment in the location where a former massage establishment had been closed due to criminal activity.
- The contract for the renovation of Pueblo Park on Del Amo had been awarded.
- Red City buses will be repainted to match the green City buses.

Commissioner Cohen stated that the City, according to the City Charter, had to appoint a Council person for the vacant position rather than conduct another election.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino explained that the appointment would be similar to the procedure for appointing a Commissioner in that the candidates would be allowed to speak and then the Mayor would call for nominations. She reported that a candidate would need four votes to win. She added that the item was the last item on the agenda, so that the newly appointed Council member would not be required to vote on any Council business at the meeting.

In response to a question from Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino stated that the vote on the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) contract was on the meeting agenda and scheduled before the appointment, but she noted that the contract item might be pulled from the agenda. She added that AFSCME had been without a contract for six months.

B. Housing

Commissioner Griffith discussed an article on an upcoming ballot item in Huntington Beach regarding rent control for seniors.

There was a discussion on rent control.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino noted that the new workforce development on Cabrillo Avenue would contain mixed use units and some affordable units.

There was a discussion on when the new Wellbrook complex would schedule an open house.

C. Health

Commissioner Griffith stated that LACCOA had received information on the merging of Medicare and Medi-Cal coverage for those people who were eligible for both. She noted that dental service had been added to Medicare.

Chairperson K. Davis discussed an article on a stressed caregiver of an elderly neighbor.

There was a discussion of the problem of hoarding.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino reported that the vials of life from the Fire Department had been delivered to the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center. Chairperson K. Davis noted that the Focal Point also had received the vials.

D. Transportation

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino stated that Transit Administration Manager Mills had reported: that the remodeling of the transit services, operation and administrative offices was continuing, that the Council had approved the repainting of older red buses to the new color scheme, that Transit would ask the Council to approve the memoranda of understanding (MOU) that would allow transit to provide their own transit security and that there would be items on the Council's agenda for compressed natural gas facilities to be built on Transit property.

There was a discussion of the availability of seat belts on school and city buses.

Julie Dojiri, Civic Affairs Chairperson for South Bay New Horizons reported that some of the New Horizons residents had complained about that length of time for the walk signal to cross Maple Avenue at Sepulveda. She stated that she had had discussions with Ted Semaan in the Public Works department and had conducted some investigations on the timing of the walk signals and the length of time it took for some residents to cross the street. She noted that she had supplied the results of her investigations to Ted Semann, who in turn had informed her that the signal would be replaced with a count-down indicator and that two seconds would be added to the crossing time.

Julie Dojiri stated that she had thanked the Chair and the members of the Traffic Commission and the Public Works department for the speedy solution to the problem.

Commissioner G. Davis stated she had also spoken to Ted Semaan about increasing the walk signal time at the corner of Crenshaw and Sepulveda.

Julie Dojiri thanked the Commission for all their help in bringing the City's attention to the concern regarding the walk signal at Maple Avenue.

Commissioner Kimmel-Dagostino stated that it was always important to have representatives of seniors attend Council meetings to thank the City for their help or to bring forward items that needed attention.

Commissioner Griffith requested that the City include information on handicapped accessibility at local events.

There was a discussion on the memorial for Louis Zamperini.

E. Community Programs

Chairperson K. Davis reported that the Woman's Club had participated in Operation Teddy Bear, where 5000 backpacks had been assembled and filled.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand reported that the signups for the Senior Tours had gone well and noted that the signups for the next set of Tours would begin in a few weeks.

In response to a question from Chairperson K. Davis, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand stated that she would ask Ken Kelso in Community Services to contact Chairperson K. Davis with information on Torrance charities which support women.

F. Focal Point Program

Chairperson K. Davis stated that the Focal Point office has been busy. She noted that Focal Point staff had distributed information and answered many questions while hosting the Focal Point table at the Rock around the Block celebration.

G. Elder Abuse/Fraud

There was a discussion on the "Do Not Call List" program. It was decided to do further research on which agency was responsible for the program.

8. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT

Chairperson K. Davis stated that she had made the changes to the Annual Report as requested at the last meeting.

MOTION: Commissioner G. Davis moved and Commissioner Cohen seconded, to approve the Annual Report of the Commission on Aging for the period of July 2013 through June 2014. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote. (Absent Commissioners Kraemer, Miranda and Virobik)

9. ORALS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson K. Davis presented a gift on behalf of the Commission to Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand, thanked her for all her work and support for the Commission and wished her well in her new assignment with the City.

Commissioner G. Davis thanked Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand for her support of the Commission.

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand thanked the Commission for their gifts and their good wishes and noted that she would truly miss working with the Commission and all of the Commissioners.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m. to the regular meeting on Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the Hosler Conference Room at the Bartlett Senior Citizens Center.

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Approved as submitted September 9, 2014 s/ Rebecca Poirier, City Clerk
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